

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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METH: A CHILD'S STORY NOMINATED FOR EMMY County Produced Video Examines Lives of Children of Meth Users

A video examining the lives of children of former meth users may win an Emmy award.

Produced by the County of San Diego Cable Television Network and the County's Methamphetamine Strike Force, *Meth: A Child's Story* has been nominated for an Emmy for excellence in writing by the Pacific Southwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

"This is amazing news. Thanks to this video more people are becoming aware of the devastation that meth has created in our communities," said County Supervisor Dianne Jacob. "This highly addictive, powerful stimulant has depleted public coffers in exponential ways. The Strike Force is helping to bring users back to health and cookers and dealers to justice," Jacob added.

Meth, A Child's Story talks with a recovering meth addict about her four-year-old child and examines the circumstances that led to her meth addiction. The daughter of a former meth user also discusses what it was like growing up surrounded by meth. The program is competing against eight other entries in the same category.

"Developing this video and hearing the tragic stories of how meth has changed the lives of children was an incredibly powerful experience," said Toni McKean, Project Manager for East County Meth Solutions.

The Emmy Awards, recognizing outstanding achievements in television, will be presented June 16, 2007 at the La Costa Resort and Spa in Carlsbad.

Meth: A Child's Story is one more effort of the Meth Strike Force to generate awareness of the problems meth is causing in the region. Founded 11 years ago, the Meth Strike Force has produced measurable results, focusing its efforts on eradicating meth labs, controlling the sale of chemicals used to make meth, saving children from meth-infested environments, and referring people for meth treatment.

"The Strike Force takes a comprehensive approach to this problem," said Jean M. Shepard, Tri-Chair of the Meth Strike Force and Director of the County's Health and Human Services Agency. "We're attacking the meth problem through prevention, intervention, treatment, and interdiction."

To obtain information regarding methamphetamine, report meth-related crime, or to seek assistance with meth problems, call the County's Meth Hotline at **(877) NO2-METH** (662-6384) or visit its website www.No2Meth.org. ###